



Issue 254 1st - 7th April 2019

### Stage 1 Debate: Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Bill



There might be some question about whether climate change is the most urgent problem we have to tackle. There's really no question that that if it isn't tackled - whatever other problems we are addressing will eventually (but not that eventually) cease to matter all that much.

Global temperatures have already increased 1°C above pre-industrial levels, with damaging impacts being felt around the world. Climate change makes storms like Cyclone Idai, which devastated parts of Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe recently, much more likely. ([About which btw](#))

We urge MSPs to support the Bill at this stage but then go on to make it stronger, a lot stronger. Here's the [SCCS briefing](#) on the Bill



### Stop Climate Chaos Scotland Rally 2nd April Scottish Parliament

Join the [SCCS Climate Rally](#), 12.30pm-2pm Tues 2 April to tell MSPs debating the Climate Change Bill that we're running out of time & need much stronger, urgent climate action.

### UNISON Police Staff Scotland

UNISON Police Staff Scotland, has criticised the Scottish Parliament's Justice Committee because it is unable to understand the extent of police officers back filling police staff jobs, due to lack of data. The criticism was made in response to the [report](#) on post-legislative scrutiny of the Police and Fire Reform (Scotland) Act 2012.

The [report](#) acknowledges that police staff jobs are being back filled by police officers in order to meet financial savings, but says it does not know the extent of problem because they have not been given the information they need to assess it.

Read David Malcolm, Deputy Police Staff Branch secretary and Gerry Crawley, UNISON Regional Organiser responses [here](#).

This comes at the same time as the revelation of a [massive shortfall](#) in the capital budget for Police Scotland meaning promised IT and infrastructure projects will not go ahead.



#### UNISON and Cornerstone to meet at ACAS on pay

UNISON Scotland has been continuing to engage with ACAS in order to improve the conditions for our members Employed by Cornerstone. Our comprehensive response to the submission made by Cornerstone can be found [here](#).



New College Lanarkshire earns living wage accreditation

New College Lanarkshire has officially been named an accredited living wage employer by Living Wage Scotland. This means that everyone working at the college – regardless of whether they are direct employees or third-party contracted staff – receive a minimum hourly wage of £9.

UNISON reps at the college, Moira Jarvie and Collette Bradley, said "UNISON is pleased that New College Lanarkshire has now achieved living wage accreditation in line with the national agreement with support staff unions to do so"... read more [here](#).

Unfortunately, Kelvin College and Clyde College in Glasgow, together with Borders College and North East Scotland College still have outsourced workers who are paid at a rate less than the living wage. Our [Briefing](#) sets out how the Scottish Living Wage can easily be extended through procurement.

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### **Pick of the Media**

29/03/19 UNISON.org.uk

UNISON General Secretary Dave Prentis says [time for a general election](#)

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26/03/19 [holyrood.com](#) [unison-scotland.org](#)

Disappointingly, [the Scottish Government delays decision on full fracking ban - here's why](#) it should be banned.

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25/03/19 [unison-scotland.org](#)

[Cuts to social work services are putting lives at risk, says UNISON Scotland, as strike action looms.](#)

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22/03/19 [unison-scotland.org](#)

[As part of the 60 years celebration of Cuba UNISON Scotland two young Cubans trade unionists on a fact finding visit to Scotland.](#)

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**Read the latest from UNISON's General Secretary Dave Prentis on his blog [here](#).**

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**PUBLIC  
WORKS:  
TOOLKIT**

[Public Works](#) is the UNISON Scotland campaign for jobs, services, fair taxation and a Living Wage... and against austerity. [This toolkit](#) provides branches with campaign resources to save our public services from the cuts driven by an austerity that is a political choice not an economic necessity.

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